

REMARKS

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 13, 2003. In that rejection, claims 1-29, 31-38, 40-46 and 93-101 were rejected. Claims 30 and 39 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 47-92 were withdrawn from consideration.

The Examiner is thanked for his thoughtful consideration of the amendments and remarks submitted with the amendment filed September 14, 2001.

Given the posture of this application and to expedite prosecution, Applicants have elected to accept claims 30 and 39, which the Examiner indicated to be allowable if amended to include the limitations of independent claim 1 and the intermediate claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 30 and 25. Therefore claim 1 and all pending dependent claims are patentable over the cited art. Claim 39 has been amended to include the limitations of independent claim 1 and dependent claim 38. Claim 39 is now independent. It is likewise allowable, as indicated in the Final Office Action.

As claims 25, 30, 47-98, and 101 have been cancelled, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections in the outstanding Final Action have been addressed. Withdrawal of the rejections is therefore respectfully requested.


Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims comparable in scope to previous claim 1 and the various dependent claims pending prior to this response.

Applicants believe that no fee is required with this filing; however, if it is determined that fees are due, Applicants hereby authorize the Director to charge the required fees to Deposit Account No. 500388 (MXGP001X2).

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

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